

REMARKS

The allowance of claims 56 to 63 is appreciated.

Independent claims 57, 58, 59 and 63 have been amended to recite 60,000 Daltons rather than 50,000 Daltons. Support for this amendment is in the original specification at page 27, ln. 27 to page 28, ln. 2. (“The pores are permeable to water and small solutes but impermeable to red blood cells, proteins and other blood components that are larger than 50,000 - 60,000 Daltons.”). For avoidance of doubt, the term “at least 60,000 Daltons” refers to the size of the smallest molecule that the filter typically blocks. The filter will block most molecules larger than 60,000 Daltons and allow passage of most molecules smaller than 60,000 Daltons.

Claims 57, 58, 59 and 63 has also been amended to delete an unnecessary “of” in statement regarding the molecular weight in Daltons.

New dependent claims 72 to 74 define the smallest size molecules to be blocked by the filter as 50,000; 30,000 and 20,000 Daltons respectively. Support for these minimize Dalton sizes is in the original specification at pages 10, lines 8 to 9, and page 28, line 2.

New claim 75 is similar to claim 57 except the blockage feature of the filter is defined in terms of inhibiting the passage of proteins through the filter as stated in the original application at the paragraph bridging pages 12 to 13. Similarly, new claim 76 is comparable to claim 58, claim 77 is comparable to claim 59, and claim 78 is comparable to claim 63.

All claims are in good condition for allowance. If any small matter remains outstanding, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned. Prompt reconsideration and allowance of this application is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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